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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. American Jewish Committee

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee ("AJC") seeks to help build a more peaceful, humane and just world for all. The AJC promotes human rights for all persons everywhere, the rights and freedoms of Jews all over the world, and works to eradicate anti-Semitism and other related forms of intolerance. It fosters inter-group harmony and understanding among diverse religious, ethnic, racial and social groups internationally. AJC works to improve human relations, promote justice, and advocate for the development and implementation of United Nations standards as the best means of advancing social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom. During the period of 2001-2004, AJC established new partnerships with Jewish communities and organizations in Poland, Spain, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and with the European Council of Jewish Communities.

During the period of 2001-2004, AJC attended meetings of and/or held consultations with members of several United Nations bodies or agencies, including subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council. AJC representatives regularly attend and monitor sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Human Rights, and Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). On August 20, 2002, AJC representatives convened a discussion on women's rights and HIV/AIDS during the Exceptional Session of the CEDAW, which followed the 27th Session. CEDAW Chairperson Dr. Charlotte Abaka, a human rights expert from Ghana, spoke along with Dr. Nafis Sadik of Pakistan, who at the time was the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Asia.

In June 2002, AJC's International Relations Commission adopted a policy in support of the United States of America rejoining UNESCO which was expressed in a letter from the Chair of the Commission to Congressman Tom Lantos that was dated August 12, 2002. The week of August 18, 2002, AJC's Executive Director and President met at the UN Headquarters in New York with Sergio Vieira de Mello, upon his appointment as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to introduce the long-standing support of our organization for the United Nations and the work of the High Commissioner.

An AJC representative serves on the executive bureaus of the Human Rights Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and of the Committee of Religious Non-Governmental Organizations. In addition, an AJC representative serves on the executive committee of the Council of Organizations of the United Nations Association of the United States and another serves on the Non-Governmental Organizations Working Group on the Security Council.

AJC representatives also attended the proceedings of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, and have participated in or convened seminars or meetings with United Nations officials or delegates. For example, on June 13, 2001, the American Jewish Committee convened at United Nations headquarters to mark the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and to remember Raphael Lemkin, who was dedicated to its creation and ratification. Mrs. Nane Annan

delivered remarks on behalf of United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to a large audience consisting of over 200 diplomats, United Nations officials, and representatives from non-governmental organizations. (Reference UN Press Release Number SG/SM/7842) A new monograph, entitled "An Epitaph for Rafael Lemkin", was released on the occasion.

Annually AJC representatives met with heads of state, foreign ministers, or other leaders from 50 to 60 member states from all regions of the world in privately organized meetings at the time of their presentations to the General Assembly's General Debate.

In 2002, an AJC representative participated in a series of meetings among representatives of non-governmental organizations to meet candidates for election to serve as judges with the International Criminal Court. On March 14 – 15, 2002, AJC's Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights convened in coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights an expert consultation on the future of human rights field presences. Representatives from various United Nations offices also participated.

During the winter of 2002, AJC contributed $50,000 to the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Afghanistan, continuing a pattern begun earlier during the conflict in Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro). AJC has led a series of initiatives that support the overall goals and objectives of the United Nations Economic and Social Council by providing humanitarian relief and development aid. In 2001, AJC contributed $50,000 to rebuild two Hindu and Muslim schools in India after an earthquake. Also in 2001, AJC contributed $25,000 to rebuild a clinic damaged by earthquakes in El Salvador. In 2003, AJC contributed to help people living with HIV/AIDS in Cape Town, South Africa. In 2004, AJC contributed in Ethiopia to train doctors for treating patients with HIV/AIDS and provide humanitarian relief for orphans who lost their parents to the disease. In 2004, AJC contributed $25,000 to assist flood victims in the Dominican Republic and in Haiti.

2. Global Rights

Special consultative status granted in 1989

Part I: Changes within the Organization since the Last Report

- ***Name or Contact Information of the Organization:*** Our name has changed from International Human Rights Law Group to Global Rights: Partners for Justice.
- ***Geographical Distribution of the Membership:*** This is not a membership organization. We have offices in nine countries: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Morocco, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the United States of America. We work with partner organizations in about 20 countries.
- ***Constitution or By-laws:*** Our Articles of Incorporation have been amended to reflect our name change. Our Bylaws of the Corporation have also been amended to reflect our name change.

Part II: Activities Carried Out in the Reporting Period.

The UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

Global Rights is committed to mainstreaming women's rights through all its programs and has participated in the 45th session of CSW. In 2001, we arranged for African experts on women's inheritance rights to brief the CSW on the intersection of economic rights and the right of women to inherit. We also initiated high-level discussions, resulting in a Resolution on the Situation of Women and Girls in Afghanistan, which was recommended for approval by the ECOSOC. In 2002, Global Rights developed a basic guide on *How to Lobby the CSW*. We also conducted an intensive training program for NGOs on advocacy utilizing the CSW. In 2003, Global Rights staff attended and participated in several caucuses at the 46th session of CSW, including the Muslim Women and Human Rights Caucus and the Violence Against Women Caucus.

World Conference Against Racism and Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR) (from 31 August to 7 September)

Global Rights convened a special forum on comparative experiences of racism at the WCAR in Durban in 2001. This special forum, VOICES, featured 21 individuals from 18 countries who gave voice to the many manifestations of racism, such as hate crimes and slavery, as well as systematic discrimination on the basis of race, color, descent, and national or ethnic origin, that is evident throughout the world.

Over the course of six days, VOICES participants shared their experiences of racism before a panel of United Nations officials and experts. Hundreds of UN delegates, government leaders, members of civil society groups from around the world, and international media attended forum sessions. VOICES participants presented a statement to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, as part of the official proceedings at the WCAR.

From the beginning of the WCAR preparations, Global Rights sought to ensure the involvement of civil society groups in the WCAR. We developed an NGO guide to participating in the WCAR and disseminated it widely. In addition to the preparatory activities we were engaged in prior to 2001, Global Rights participated actively in at the Inter-sessional Preparatory Meeting for the WCAR held in March 2001, and the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting held in Geneva in May/June 2001. At both meetings, we worked actively with non-governmental caucuses on issues of race, poverty and criminal justice. Global Rights coordinated the Roundtable on Race and Poverty in the Americas.

Global Rights also worked to ensure that the inter-section of gender and race discrimination was a central issue addressed at the WCAR. Global Rights did outreach work with Iranian women's groups for the Asia Preparatory Committee meeting in Tehran. Global Rights also prepared indigenous and Afro-Caribbean women's groups in Nicaragua to communicate their experience of the link between gender and ethnicity at the WCAR.

Advocacy Bridge Program

A signature program of Global Rights since 1997, the *Advocacy Bridge Program* trains human rights activists from historically underrepresented communities to participate in the

annual session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (CHR) held every spring in Geneva. Global Rights' training helps local advocates to incorporate and effectively implement international advocacy strategies as a tool for bringing about domestic change in their own countries.

Our 2001 Advocacy Bridge Program included 15 human rights NGO leaders from 10 different countries: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Yemen. The participants advocated two main issues: transitional justice and issues of impunity for gross human rights violations committed during armed conflict; and women's rights and intolerance, addressing the exceptional cultural and religious barriers that women from many countries face in exercising their fundamental rights.

Our 2002 Advocacy Bridge Program participants included 18 human rights activists from eight countries: Afghanistan, Brazil, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Uruguay. Three themes were focused on: Transitional Justice; Women's Rights in Afghanistan; and Racial Discrimination in Latin America.

In 2003, 14 leading human rights activists from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Morocco, Pakistan, Colombia, Nicaragua, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United States, participated in the Advocacy Bridge program. The activists focused on two themes: racial and gender discrimination, and violence against women with a focus on impunity and transitional justice. Global Rights also sponsored two thematic hearings at the CHR examining human rights violations resulting from the war on terrorism.

The 2004 Advocacy Bridge delegation to the CHR comprised 16 leading human rights activists from Burundi, Nicaragua, India, Israel, Mongolia, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States. In addition to working on country-specific issues, our delegates were divided into three teams working on the status of domestic workers, sexual minorities, and women in transitional justice.

3. Greek Council for Refugees

Special consultative status granted in 2001

GCR continued to support, at the operational level, one of the main goals and objectives of the United Nations, the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol of 1967.

PART I

Changes in GCR

Constitution: While the Organisation's aims and purposes remained the same, an amendment, approved by GCR's General Assembly and by the Legal authorities here on 20 July 2001, extends the possible geographical coverage of its activities beyond Greece. This allows GCR to cooperate with NGOs with similar objectives in other countries and to operate beyond Greece.

Governing Board: A new Governing Board (GB) was elected following GCR's General Assembly of April 2005.

Membership: The total number has grown from 52 six years ago, to 97 currently.

Areas of Activities: While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities remain much as described in the submission of 27 May 1999, GCR has expanded their range in Greece; it has also strengthened significantly its cooperation with non-Greek NGOs and its operations extended to other countries. Furthermore, its advocacy role has been strengthened. A brief description of these developments will be described in Part II.

Sources of Funding: The UNHCR which was the main funding provider of GCR, has been reducing its financial support to Greece. GCR has been seeking alternate funding and manages to cover its activities from European Union (EU), Government, private sector, fund-raising and its membership contributions. In 2004, the total cost of its programmes was Euros 1.330.707,18, provided by UNHCR 8,13%; GCR 0,1%; EU.27,80%; Government 56,99%; Private sector 6,66%.

PART II

Activities

As mentioned GCR activities continued to be focused on the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol. In practice, activities may be divided in three broad categories, even though they are complementary to each other and often intertwined.

LEGAL SERVICES

a. Facilitation of access to the asylum procedure and provision of initial orientation and guidance to newly arrived individuals

b. Provision of Legal Assistance and legal representation, free of charge, both to newcomers and to established refugees and asylum seekers, as appropriate: 1) at the first degree of examination of their application; 2) before the *ad hoc* advisory committee (the "Appeals Board") at the second degree; and/or before the courts or other authorities, such as the Council of State.

c. As many clandestine immigrants arrive at greatly dispersed border areas of Greece, GCR makes available, in consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the competent Ministries,

1) provision of legal assistance and case assessment from its main resources; and through

2) a country-wide network of legal aid for the provision of efficient assistance to asylum seekers, in outlying areas;

d. Monitoring of political/ legislative developments and organisation/ participation in informative seminars.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The aim of the department is to facilitate the integration and the attainment of independence of the Asylum Seekers, the Refugees and those admissible under Humanitarian Status, on an individual or group basis.

The Central Social Service provides counselling and information, intervenes in institutions and services for the benefit of the people served, (in relation to educational, health, vocational training issues, etc): Extensive sessions with individuals/families cover counselling and information; while interventions with the appropriate authorities regarding the settlement of health issues (medical tests, treatments, medical attendance, finding artificial parts and paramedical material) assists regularly newcomers and other refugees and asylum seekers.

The Reception of Newcomers focuses mainly on ensuring accommodation in Reception Centres and temporary accommodation. Great numbers of individuals and families are thus served on a daily basis.

INTEGRATION

The "PYXIDA" (compass) Intercultural Centre facilitates integration through activities, such as the instruction of the Greek language, tutorial teaching, setting up and operation of hobby groups, cultural activities, etc.:

Children were prepared, mainly with lessons of Greek, in order to enable them to enrol in Greek schools; other children were helped with supportive teaching in order to enable them to attend school classes. In addition, lessons of Greek for adults, English, French, German, use of Computer were given. Children and teenagers participated in creative occupations, or in theatrical groups, adults and children participated in festivals, excursions, visits to museums, etc.

HOSTEL FOR VULNERABLE CASES OF ASYLUM SEEKERS

The operation by GCR of a hostel for vulnerable newcomer asylum seekers (e.g. unaccompanied minors, single parent families, the elderly, unaccompanied pregnant women, etc) in a residential unit ended unfortunately because of lack of funding, at the end of 2004. Efforts to reinstate the service will continue.

The Hostel was accommodating approximately 40 people at all times, providing them with food and a full range of housing services, individual and group counselling, and intensive Greek language classes, help in acquiring work permits and other services.

"IOLAOS" PROGRAMME FOR THE PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES WITH MENTAL DISORDERS

An innovative programme for the rehabilitation of refugees that present mental disorders started in 2001, continues to this date. The "Iolaos" consists of the Hostel for in-patient care, the Day Centre for outpatient services and the Protected Apartment for persons ready to move from the Hostel to independent but supervised quarters.

The Unit operates with professionally qualified staff under the supervision of a Psychiatrist. The therapeutic programmes (pharmaceutical treatment, psychological support, socialisation, rehabilitation) are drawn up on the basis of each refugee's particular needs. Beyond correcting their medical disability, the centre assists also in the integration process, such as learning the local language and obtaining a job.

The CHICAM (Children in Communication about Migration) programme

An innovative research and pedagogical programme of the Pedagogic Institute of the London University aimed at investigating some of the current European issues: migration; the use of new communication methods; and assessing children's experience in the use of these methods.

The first part of the research was focused on the refugees' and the immigrants' situation as observed in the communications between them in the six European countries that participated in the programme. At the outset, the participating children were taught the basic principals of computing and of the rest of the equipment and proceeded to small visual productions covering family, friendship, school. At the same time, a field research was carried out on children, their families and their wider society and conclusions drawn as to practices. Important links were also established among compatriots and other nationals in other countries.

The Employment Service, operating in the framework of the EU Initiative EQUAL, aims at referring the refugees to job positions. Emphasis is also given for the preparation of women refugees for employment.

The HERMES programme. The first phase of this EU research programme was undertaken by GCR and NGOs from three other European countries and was completed in July 2003. It assessed the extent of the problem of teenage refugee school dropouts.

PRESENCE OF GCR IN WIDER COLLABORATIONS

A. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS (NCHR)

GCR is one of the six non-governmental organisations members of the NCHR.

Further, a member of the GCR's governing board is an elected president of the Department III of the NCHR, which is responsible for the application of human rights to the refugees.

During the deliberations of the various departments of the NCHR, GCR's representatives have taken an active role in raising issues and submitting recommendations for the improvement of legislation and of practices relating to refugees and to asylum seekers.

B. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION DEPARTMENT (IDC) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece

GCR participates in the NGO National Counselling Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with all the NGOs that are registered in the IDC register and is invited to all the respective meetings. GCR is also a member of the NGOs Network of European Orientation organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

C. "EQUAL" EUROPEAN INITIATIVE

GCR participates in two development collaborations of this European Initiative through the Ministry of Labour that were approved in May 2002.

- "Equality" subprogramme which aims at the development of a quality system of the counselling support and employment services.

It began in November 2002 and ended in June 2004. GCR focused on research aimed at recording systems and procedures that characterise the Greek labour market in respect with the integration in it of the disadvantaged groups, particularly of refugees, immigrants, Gypsies, etc.

- "Anadrasi – Istos" subprogramme, which aims at the creation and development of a cooperation network for the support of the asylum seekers.

The programme began in November 2002 and ended in August 2004. GCR undertook the support and training of institutions to face asylum issues as well as the legal assistance to asylum seekers in cases of mass arrivals and to provide services for their social integration (employment, etc).

A significant number of asylum seekers have already been offered services of legal assistance and job finding. GCR participates in the Board of Directors and the Scientific Committees of the programme.

D. Cooperation with other NGOs which contribute to the achievement of the Goals of the UN

GCR participates in and/or collaborates with international and national NGOs, including ECRE, ECRAN, and others, in programmes aimed at the protection of refugees.

E. Cooperation with UN Bodies

GCR's main partner remains the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. It participates and collaborates actively at the local level; it participates regularly and actively at its Headquarters' annual meetings of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme in Geneva and in other meetings of UN agencies as appropriate.

F. Participation in UN Activities

Although invited in a number of meetings organized by ECOSOC, GCR has been unable to attend, due to non-availability of funding, but particularly because the subject matters debated had mostly no direct bearing on Refugee issues.

G. Sensitization and Public Awareness of Refugee Issues

GCR participated in and/or organized public discussions for this purpose. It has also developed a programme of awareness among school children with the organisation of meetings and other events in schools.

H. Publications

A number of important documents have been prepared by GCR and published.

4. Rotary International

General consultative status granted in 1993

Introduction

Rotary is an organization of approximately 1.2 million business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The organization was founded in 1905 and has since grown to become a global network of more than 32,000 Rotary clubs in 168 countries.

Rotary clubs work to improve the quality of life for people around the world through volunteer projects initiated at the grass-roots level. Projects are funded by the clubs or with assistance of grants from The Rotary Foundation.

Membership

Membership in Rotary clubs worldwide has increased three percent over the past four years, with the ending membership as of December 2004 at 1,214,127. New RI clubs have been established in increasing numbers worldwide, with new clubs formed in the following new Rotary countries: United Arab Emirates (2002), Timor-Leste (2002), and Afghanistan (2003).

Affiliations with International Entities in Consultative Status with the UN

In addition to ECOSOC, RI maintains official relations with WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO, UNEP, UNCHS, Council of Europe, the World Bank, and the Organization of American States. Rotary is working to establish relations with the African Union. In order to maintain a close relationship with these organizations, RI's world president annually appoints Rotary leaders to represent Rotary at the key UN intergovernmental organizations in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Paris, Nairobi, Washington, Rome, Bangkok, Beirut, and Chile.

Changes in Founding Sources or Commitments

As part of the global partnership to eradicate polio, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan describes Rotary's PolioPlus program as a "shining example of private/public partnership." Since 1985, Rotary has committed over a half-billion dollars to the global polio eradication effort. In 1988, the World Health Assembly challenged the world to eradicate polio. Since that time, Rotary's efforts and those of partner agencies, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and governments around the world, have achieved a 99 percent reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide.

Adequate funding is the greatest obstacle to achieving a polio-free world. In February 2002, Rotary rose to the challenge once again, announcing a Polio Eradication Fundraising Campaign to raise US$80 million to contribute to ongoing global polio eradication budget needs.

Cooperation with UN bodies and Officials

Since the last quadrennial report, RI has been invited with increasing frequency to participate at the highest levels in the conferences and meetings of ECOSOC and other UN agencies. Rotary officers meet with UN agency directors and executives on a regular basis to discuss collaborative

efforts. Often, RI senior leaders are invited to deliver keynote addresses or to participate in panel discussions. In addition, RI has supported UN conferences by hosting panel discussions, staging exhibits, or preparing position statements for presentation or publication. The following examples demonstrate the wide range of issues that have been addressed by RI initiatives, and represent only a portion of UN events at which Rotary has been featured over the past four years:

- **UN DPI NGO Conference**, UN/NY, September 2001 – The Trustee Chairman of The Rotary Foundation gave a keynote address on global polio eradication activities.
- **UN World Summit on Sustainable Development**, Johannesburg, South Africa, August-September 2002–Verbal presentation about the role of NGOs by an RI representative.
- **The Microcredit Summit +5**, New York, November 2002—RI representative delivered a speech highlighting Rotary's commitment and work on microcredit projects.
- **The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO's) Partnerships for Better Health in the Americas (100th Anniversary Celebration)**, Washington, D.C., December 2002 — Keynote address on the role of non-governmental organizations in global health by past RI President Frank Devlyn.
- **World Water Forum**, Osaka, Japan, March 2003—Rotary water projects were highlighted in the online forum and through an RI exhibit.
- **WHO/CDC Safe Water Symposium**, Nairobi, Kenya, May 2003—Keynote address on water issues and the Millennium Development Goals by an RI representative.
- **UN DPI NGO Conference**, UN/NY, September 2001-2004—Rotary representatives participated each year. Rotary projects were highlighted in side panels during the 2003 and 2004 UN-DPI conferences.
- **ECOSOC High-level Segment**, UN/New York, June 2004 —Verbal presentation on Rotary's Centennial celebration read by ECOSOC Vice president on behalf of the President.
- **UN Commission on the Status of Women**, UN/New York, March 2004 – For the first time, Rotary International hosted a joint panel with Soroptimist and Zonta International to raise awareness about the role of women in Rotary clubs.

Awards and Recognition

- **PAHO Public Health Hero of the Americas Award** –Past Rotary International President Dr. Carlos Canseco of Mexico, 2002.
- **Gates Award for Global Health**—The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, 2002.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Excellence in Public Service Award (EPSA) — Rotary International, 2004.

Participating in the Meetings and Activities of UN Agencies

RI Representatives routinely attend and monitor the Executive Board meetings, PrepCom meetings, and the other events and activities of UN agencies and subsidiary agencies in order to

identify common concerns and goals that are parallel to Rotary's mission. These representatives facilitate communication between RI and the UN entities at the highest levels, while encouraging collaboration on joint projects with UN agencies at the local levels.

Supplementing the panels and workshops within major UN conferences listed earlier, RI also collaborates with UN agencies on regional meetings and seminars related to a single mutual concern such as hunger, literacy, water, and AIDS.

Other Activities

Several RI representatives currently serve as chairpersons or members of CONGO committees and NGO Committees, including the NGO Council to UNESCO, the UNICEF NGO committee, the UNDPI NGO Committee, and the NGO Committee for the Status of Women. In 2000, RI was elected to the CONGO Executive Board and the RI representatives in New York were the catalysts in forming the CONGO Committee on Education.

Joint promotional and sponsorship activities

A joint letter signed by the Rotary International President and UNESCO Director-General was sent out in October 2002. The letter was sent to all Rotary clubs and districts around the world and the UNESCO National Commissions, encouraging the two agencies to collaborate locally on projects. A follow-up letter was sent by RI and UNESCO headquarters staff in 2004 to further contacts between Rotary districts and their local UNESCO National Commissions in 18 selected countries.

5. Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

Special consultative status granted in 1985

The Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (WMS), was established in 1864 and endeavors to make possible opportunities and resources to meet the changing needs and concerns of people throughout the world. The Society is, among other things, the social outreach arm of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, with established societies around the world, representing approximately 800,000 women. The WMS is active in eight countries in the Caribbean, eight countries in Southern Africa, five countries in West Africa, Latin America, Suriname, Guyana, Mozambique, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. The primary concerns of the Society are issues relative to women, children and families; however it is recognized that the whole community must be addressed.

The Society also works in affiliation with a number of other organizations including: Church Women United, National Council of Negro Women, World Federation of Methodist Women, Bread for the World, Children's Defense Fund and several Commissions of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches (United States of America). The WMS is also affiliated with the Department of Public Information (DPI) and attended the weekly briefings sponsored by the DPI and attended the annual conference for NGO's held in September each year.

During the reporting period, 2001 – 2004, the WMS has continued to exercise its privilege of Consultative Status with ECOSOC. We have attended the weekly briefing of DPI, and have also attended many of the special sessions and commission meetings at the United Nations

during the past four (4) years: **Highlights include:** Commission on the Status of Women 45th Session (2001); Third Preparatory Meeting of Children (UNICEF, June 2002); 54th Annual UN-DPI/NGO Conference (2001); Children's Conference of the Environment in Victoria, Canada (2004); 55th Annual UN-DPI/NGO Conference (2002); sponsorship of a young woman to the Special Session of the General Assembly On Children; Global InfoSec 2002 Conference; 56th and 57th UN-DPI/NGO Conference (2003, 2004), and many others. The WMS continues to develop its resource library of materials that speak to the issues and concerns expressed at the United Nations and its affiliated organizations. We continue to disseminate information and materials to our constituents relative to those programs and projects of the United Nations that address our primary concerns.

We continue to hold our annual NGO Conference in October of each year, offering workshops, seminars and panel discussions by invited UN program personnel. Following is a short summary of the quadrennial programming:

2001: Overall Theme: "*Igniting Our Global Potential; The Power of One*". Invited Guests – Values Caucus, presented an interactive Workshop, "*Visioning for Significant Missions*". The issues of Racism, Environmental Justice and Volunteerism were the primary presentations. Presenters included: Dr. Debra Robinson, CEO and founder of International Possibilities, Inc. (Washington, D.C.); Mr. Damu Smith, project director of Greenpeace (Washington, D.C.); and Mr. Tim Tweed, recruitment and outreach specialist with Americore Service and Vista (Philadelphia, PA).

2002: Overall Theme: "*The United Nations: Window on the World*". Invited Guests Ms. Lucia Rodriguez, World Federation of United Nations Associations representative. Workshops: *Exploring Greater Dimensions for Partnership*, ECOSOC Representative; *Visualizing New Horizons*, United Nations Children's Fund Representative, UNICEF Representative, United Nations Development Fund for Women Representative; UNIFEM Representative; Joint United Nations Program on AIDS Representative and UNAIDS Representative. Luncheon speaker: Ms. Wendy Fitzwilliam, United Nations Population Fund Goodwill Ambassador.

2003: Overall Theme: "*NGO's Partnering in the Promise: Recovering our Children from Poverty, War and Illiteracy*." In conjunction with our theme, we partnered with UNICEF, who co-sponsored our Conference. Working with Ms. Kate Webber, United States fund for UNICEF manager, and Ms. Meg Gardner, managing director of education and community partnerships with the United States fund for UNICEF, an impressive array of presenters provided information on a variety of topics and programs. Special Interest Workshop: *Conflict Resolution*, Mr. Andres Guerrero, Development Education Officer (UNICEF), overview of UNICEF work, Ms. Kimberly Gamble Payne, UNICEF Deputy, Office of Public Partnership; *Children in the Midst of Armed Conflict*, Mr. Kimmie Weeks, Co-Founder, Youth in Action International, and *Children and the Environment*, Mr. James Sniffen of the United Nations Environmental Program. As a result of his presentation, we sponsored two (2) young people for the Environmental Conference held in July of 2004 in New London, CT. Our Keynote Speaker, Mr. Thomas Kennedy, Senior VP of Programs Covenant House and Chair, United States Campaign to Ratify UN Children's Convention. During the UN Speaks portion of our

programming, Ms. Kate Ramsey, Coordinator UNFPA Global Campaign to End Fistula, presented a compelling view of the issue, and Dr. Susan Stukes, NGO representative for the Links organization, introduced the group to a safe birth initiative called the Maama Kit Initiative. Luncheon Speaker: Mr. Olara A. Otunnu, UN Under-Secretary General, Special Representative of the Secretary General spoke passionately of children and armed conflict.

As a result of the 2003 WMS/NGO Conference, our organization moved from a disseminator of information to an active participant on the global stage, partnering with both UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) in several projects. With UNICEF, we sponsored several School in a Box projects, participated in UNICEF 'Trick or Treat Program' and provided direct contributions to UNICEF of over $3,400.

2004: In November of 2003, we began a campaign, in partnership with the World Health Organization, (WHO) to raise funds for the purchase of Maama Kits (a safe birth initiative) for distribution in Mozambique, Africa. We are pleased to report that our **WMS/NGO Conference for 2004 was held in Mozambique, Africa.** We journeyed to the Continent to develop a 'Memorandum of Understanding' between the Ministry of Health of Mozambique, and Associacao Mocaambicane Para Desenvolvi Mentode Familia (AMODIFA), a local NGO, who would have responsibility for preparation and distribution of the Kits and the WHO in Mozambique, who would partner with the WMS in oversight of the project. We raised over $100,000USD for the purchase and distribution of these safe birthing kits to the women of Mozambique. Over the next two years, we will distribute these funds for that purpose.

This past quadrennial has been an exciting and productive one for the Women's Missionary Society as we have used our status with ECOSOC and DPI to effect positive change for those in need. It has greatly enhanced and enlarged the vision of our global responsibility and provided an arena for interaction with other organizations whose focus is women and children, peace and justice, health and human rights. We will continue to be advocates of the United Nations programs and projects, work toward the ratification of declarations and resolutions as well as seek other opportunities to partner, or jointly sponsor initiatives that speak to the global issues of the Millennium Development Goals.